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NOTICE.

In the next number of the
CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS
there will be a large double-page picture of the
HANLAN-COURTNEY RACE

at Lachine, along with portraits of the contestants in costume and in their shells. Also a number of smaller sketches descriptive of the whole event, with full letter-press description. We shall also publish a sketch of the new Ontario Exhibition Building at Toronto.

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, Oct. 5, 1878.

VICTORIBUS SPOLIA.

This delicate question has, during the past week, been agitating the minds of militant journalists. The old Roman cry that to the victor belong the spoils of war is one whose echo has been taken up and acted upon to an appalling extent in modern political life. It was the late Governor MARCY, of New York, Secretary of State under President PIERCE, who is said to have popularized the doctrine among our neighbours, and one of the greatest Americans that ever lived, ANDREW JACKSON, carried it out in the most lavish and reckless manner during his first administration. Since his time it has become a recognized rule of action in the United States, President HAYES having so far been the gentlest in its application. To cloak somewhat the injustice of the practice, the euphemistic term Rotation in Office has been conveniently imagined. In France, every change of Cabinet seems necessarily to involve a general change of even minor officials, and this ludicrous habit has furnished the inimitable CHAM with some of his most felicitous cartoons. In Canada, taking all in all, we have been comparatively free from the nuisance, thanks to our scheme of Civil Service, based upon that of the Mother Country, but recent events have shown that we are not altogether free from an infliction which must give a great deal of trouble to the men in power. As a rule, there is far too much political feeling in the ranks of our Civil Service, and this is owing to the palpable fact that appointments are mainly due to political influence, instead of to competitive merit and regular promotion as the inflexible rule ought to be. Members of the Civil Service, being generally men of intelligence and education, cannot, of course, divest themselves of political partialities and prejudices, but beyond the recording of their ballot, they should be strictly guarded and never go beyond the bounds of an honourable neutrality. In other words, they should be epicenes. They ought not to give any government the pretext of removing them on the score of interference in active politics, and government, on the other hand, ought not to remove them except upon the most patent cause. This has not always been the case, and the consequence is that a movement of retaliation is spoken of by the opposing party. But we trust the movement will not go beyond velleities or threats. A victorious party can afford to be generous. Their best recourse is to strengthen the system of the Civil Service and enforce its rules. This was one of the points touched upon by Lord DUFFERIN in his late admirable speech

at the opening of the Toronto Exhibition, and we trust that his wise counsels will be heeded. He insisted upon the doctrine that the Civil Service was part and parcel of the stable administration of the country, quite independent of the vicissitudes of Cabinets, and that its character of inamovability should be strictly guarded. The incoming of a new Ministry is not the signal for a distribution of spoils among hungry parasites, but the rallying point of a progressive administration.

WATER METER.

A recent number of the Rochester, N.Y., *Democrat and Chronicle* contains a long account of a new water meter which has been recently invented in that city by Messrs. CHAS. C. BARTON and J. B. WEST, which, it is stated, measures with perfect accuracy, and the durability of which the inventors agree to guarantee. The Chief Engineer of the Rochester Water Works has tested the meter, and says that he feels satisfied that it will register with great accuracy, whether the streams be very small and under a light head, or the stream, large or small, be under great heads, and he recommends it to the careful consideration and examination of all boards and water engineers.

Some two years ago the report of the Montreal Water Works had this to say concerning the rapidly-extending waste of water:

"This extraordinary increase has alarmed the water committee, and a strict inspection of water pipes in houses has been established. This had the effect of bringing down the consumption nearly 1,000,000 of gallons per day. This mode must be resorted to until the general introduction of water meters shall have produced a check upon the recklessness of some of our consumers."

We have not the space to enlarge upon so important a subject, but if the invention is what it is represented to be, it is well worthy the attention of our Water Works Committee.

THE TRADE QUESTION AGAIN.

There is at the present time a great diversity of opinion as to whether Protection or Free Trade is best for the interests of the people of Canada, and, as the matter at present stands, if we may believe certain writers, the question is even more one of party than of principle, they contending, without an exception, that the interests of the country and Free Trade are one and the same thing. I should be glad to be permitted to give my views on the subject, and herewith append a few remarks, which may or may not be useful towards elucidating the matter.

In advocating or resisting the claims of Protection, we find many and diverse arguments diametrically opposed to each other. First, England has prospered under Free Trade; secondly, the United States are suffering under Protection. I am about to give my opinions upon the reason of these two countries standing in the respective positions which they at present occupy, and they are as follows: Firstly, England occupies an exceptional and peculiar position as a great central figure amongst the nationalities of the globe, and by her isolation from the rest of Europe she enjoys exemption from their difficulties and their standing armies. Scarcely ten years pass away but one or another of the European nations is engaged in a conflict with a neighbouring power, into which all the other European nations, with the exception of England, become more or less involved. Any way their standing armies are greatly increased, and the workshops are for the time being almost deserted. During these times England has laid the foundation of her great mercantile superiority, and eventually, having gained control of the markets, she threw open her own to the trading community of the globe. She kept a large stock, a completed assortment of everything in the known world. Hence it was her policy so to do. The silks of the East, teas from China, wool from Australia, cotton from India and America (manufactured and raw), watches from Switzerland, toys from Germany, wheat from Canada, spices from the Indies—all could be purchased there as reasonably as in the respective countries where produced, and far lower and in greater abundance than in any other country in the world. Hence to her market flocked the merchants from all parts of the habitable globe; hence her rapid, prodigious prosperity. Looking, on the other hand, to the decline of business in the United States, I have given the matter my most entire consideration, and can ascribe it to no other cause than the present personal and national want of honesty and straightforwardness among her people, her government, and her institutions. Protection

reared up around her a bulwark against British manufacturers, only to establish a race of her own incapable of honestly conducting business on the principle of paying their debts. Thus their credit is exhausted, they distrust one another, and business is brought to a perfect standstill. So long as the standard of commercial morality is so fearfully low in the United States as it is at present, we can expect no very serious competition on their part against Great Britain, or, if so, it will be at a loss to themselves. For some years the goods they have been carrying to foreign markets actually cost them more than the sum for which they were sold; so far from the transactions being profitable to them and increasing their wealth, they only by degrees brought about the present miserable state of things existing amongst them. Thus you see in each case, both in Great Britain and the United States, peculiar advantages or disadvantages have been the cause of the success or non-success of each respective country.

Now let me with regard to Canada define my ideas as to the position she now stands in and the great future before her, should she adopt a good, sound system of protection around certain articles which would decrease our importations and make the balance of trade more even, and give us a chance of doing what we have not been heretofore doing—viz., paying 100 cents in the dollar on all goods which we may hereafter purchase. Canada is in a more fortunate position than any European nation, or even the United States, in having a fine country for producing the first essentials required by the human race—viz., food. Humanity can exist without the curiosities, delicacies or luxuries of the Indies, of China, or of Europe, but the plain productions of our own soil it can ill dispense with. Thus, as one thing or another thing is for the time the fashion in regard to us, our treasures are treasures for all ages. The workman of the globe, wherever he may be, will always remain true to our bread and our meat, and sad indeed will be the fate of rulers who may place a tax on these the prime necessities of the human family. England may be offended at our duty upon her manufactures, but yet feel ill-disposed to add to the expense of the living of her workmen by a tax upon the food imported for their benefit. Thus, having these saleable articles, all we have to do is to carry them to market, there dispose of them, and, happy idea, for cash. Having so done, our next idea must be to preserve to ourselves the use of the money given us in exchange for our own sole and exclusive benefit.

As matters now stand, say we export at the rate of 60 millions per annum, and import 90 millions. I have nothing to refer to by me at the moment, but I believe this is about the proportion. Well, at this rate, we cannot pay for what we buy at invoice rates. In order to live at all we must be dishonest and pay about 67 cents for what we have engaged to pay 100. Supposing that, by a readjustment of the tariff, our imports are reduced to, say from England 25 millions, instead of fifty millions. I should imagine the English creditor would be far better satisfied to sell half and get full value, than to sell double of that and get only 67 per cent. of his money. He would be better off, and we would have a better standard of morality prevailing amongst us, and feel the satisfaction of having an honest name, which, I am sorry to say, as it now stands, we run a great chance of losing for ever.

Supposing we put a heavy duty on English broadcloths, cottons, manufactured furs, hats, etc., there are always a great number of the wealthy who would still take these things, but the majority would be satisfied with our own Canadian productions, and the manufacture of a better quality of goods would be stimulated by a better price or a more extensive use. Some persons imagine that Protection would necessarily involve a great increase in prices. My idea is that so far from that, it may be the means of purchasing our necessities in these lines actually cheaper than ever—viz., from the competition engendered by fostering the manufactures, the great increase consequently in the number of the same—the infallible lowering of prices ensuing therefrom. Should, as some people say, there be not sufficient revenue acquired for the purpose of carrying on the government of the country, then we must have recourse to a tax upon personal and other property—the only proper way, to my way of thinking, for raising a revenue in any country. During a late visit to the Maritime Provinces, I found the people there entertaining a most fallacious idea—viz., that Protection would increase the price of flour, an idea which I endeavoured to combat in every case by assuring them that the price in Liverpool would not be one whit affected by a duty on flour here, and, consequently, as they purchased in Liverpool at a regular rate, that rate would be pretty well observed in trading through the Provinces. All our Ontario farmers wanted was to save the expense of shipping to Liverpool what they ought to find a market for here, a result caused by American farmers sending in their flour to compete with ours, duty free. The only saving to Ontario farmers would be then a very great one—viz., the cost of railway to seaboard and ship to Liverpool.

W. S.

ARCTIC literature appears to be on the increase. A few months ago we had Sir George Nares' book. That was followed by Lieutenant Markham's popular story of the English expedition; and now Messrs. Trubner announce that they have nearly ready the memoirs of Hans Hendrik, the Arctic traveller. This new volume gives an account of the journeys of Hans under Kane, Hayes, Hall and Nares.

THE METHODIST GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The Second General Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada was in session, in this city, during three weeks, commencing on the 4th of September last. The Conference was composed of clergymen and laymen, in about equal numbers. About two hundred and twenty representatives were in attendance. We give, in the present number of this paper, portraits of the officers of the Conference, and of the heads of the departments elected during its recent session.

The President of the Conference is the REV. GEORGE DOUGLAS, LL.D., of this city. Dr. Douglas is the Principal of the Wesleyan Theological College of Montreal. He was born, we believe, in this city; has been about thirty years in the ministry of his church; and is about fifty-five years of age. He was the Vice-President of the First General Conference of the Methodist Church of the Dominion. He has filled with distinguished ability several of the highest official positions in his church.

The REV. EGERTON RYERSON, D.D., LL.D., is the ex-President of the Conference, having been elected its first President at the session held in Toronto, in 1874. Dr. Ryerson is about seventy-six years of age, and retains his health and vigour in a remarkable degree. He was for about thirty years the Chief Superintendent of Education in Ontario, and is the father of the present school system of that Province. He has held some of the most important positions in his church, and has always, with marked ability and success, discharged the duties devolved upon him.

The Vice-President of the Conference is the REV. SAMUEL D. RICE, D.D. Dr. Rice is now a little more than three-score years of age. He was, for a short time, Governor of Victoria College, Cobourg, Ontario. He was mainly instrumental in originating the Wesleyan Female College, in Hamilton; and has filled the position of Governor of that institution for the last sixteen years.

The REV. HUMPHREY PICKARD, D.D., of Sackville, New Brunswick, was elected Book Steward for the eastern section of the work which includes the Maritime Provinces of the Dominion and Newfoundland. Dr. Pickard has been for about forty years in the ministry of his church. He was the first Principal of the Wesleyan Academy, at Sackville, and the first President of its College, and retained his connection with the educational institutions at that place for more than a quarter of a century.

The REV. ALEX. SUTHERLAND is the Secretary of the General Conference. He is now in the prime of life, having passed his forty-fifth birthday during the recent session of the Conference. He has been twenty-three years in the ministry. During the last four years he was one of the Secretaries of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Church of the Dominion. He has been elected to the same office for another quadrennial term.

The REV. EDWARD HURTLEY DEWART has been re-elected Editor of the Toronto *Christian Guardian* for the ensuing four years. Mr. Dewart has been in the ministry twenty-seven years, and has been during the last ten years Editor of the connexional paper at Toronto. He is the author of several popular volumes that have become widely circulated.

The REV. DUNCAN D. CURRIE, of the New Brunswick Conference, has been elected to the editorial chair of the Halifax *Wesleyan* for the ensuing quadrennial term. Mr. Currie was on several occasions a delegate from the late Conference of Eastern British America to the old Canada Conference, to seek the promotion of the union of the Methodist bodies of this country. He was the Secretary of the First General Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada.

The REV. WILLIAM BRIGGS, of the Metropolitan Methodist Church, Toronto, has been elected Book Steward of the Book and Publishing Department of the Connexion. Mr. Briggs is still comparatively a young man, having been not more than twenty years in the ministry.

The REV. JOHN BREDIN is the Journal Secretary of the Conference. He filled the same position in the First General Conference. Mr. Bredin has been thirty-six years in the ministry in this country, and was a short period in his earlier years in the Wesleyan ministry in England. He has been elected Secretary in many departments of the work of the church in the Annual Conferences of which he has been a member.

V. V. R. No. 5 COMPANY.

Last Saturday took place the annual shooting matches of the above company at the Point St. Charles Ranges. Numerous were the competitors animated by the desire of showing that they had improved on their previous year's performances and attracted by the valuable prizes offered by Major J. J. Redpath, their popular commander, Captain Homer-Taylor and Lieut. Anderson. The shooting commenced at one and was closely contested; and by six o'clock, every one, winners included, was heartily tired of hearing of "windage," "elevation," "magpies," "bull's-eyes," "outers," and all the other slang phraseology connected with the handling of the rifle. It was then announced that Major Redpath had expressed the hope of seeing the members of the Company at his residence in the evening, at 8 o'clock. So off they